

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the present application. The Office Action dated July 28, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9-11 and 13-19 are pending in the application with claims 6, 7, 9-11 and 13-19 being allowed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection in view of the above amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,684,557, issued to Matsuda (hereafter "Matsuda") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0101547, issued to Lee et al. (hereafter "Lee"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because neither Matsuda nor Lee, analyzed alone or in any combination, teaches or suggests the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. For example, Matsuda and Lee fail to teach a method for discharging an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display panel that includes, among other features, "after discharging the at least one surface of the liquid crystal display panel, performing a lighting test for the liquid crystal display panel", as recited in independent claim 1 of the present application.

Because Matsuda and Lee fail to teach at least the above feature of independent claim 1, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-3 are allowable over any combination of Matsuda and Lee. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, each of the presently pending claims of this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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